PROJECT OVERSIGHT REPORT

Drinking Water Information Management Enhancement Project
Department of Health (DOH)

Report as of Date: **March 2002**

Project Director: Frank Westrum
Executive Sponsor: Bill White
MOSTD Staff: David Koch

Description: The Department of Health's (DOH) Drinking Water project will build a new core information management system to replace the aging system now used to monitor contaminants in public and private drinking water systems throughout the state. Through both business and technology analyses, DOH concluded that the current system is inadequate to support decision-making about basic public health issues.

The replacement system will ensure DOH can meet these primary goals:

- Determine, track, and report the compliance status of 16,250 public water systems across the state;
- Meet current and anticipated federal and state statutory reporting requirements;
- Provide direct access to the information system for staff in the Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and business partners, such as local health agencies; and
- Establish a flexible information infrastructure that will accommodate future changes as they occur in statute or policy.

Technology: The current drinking water information system, Drinking Water Automated Information Network (DWAIN), was developed in ADABAS using the Natural programming language and resides on a UNIX platform. The new system is an n-tier application that is partitioned into User, Business, and Data Services. This seven-layer architecture utilizes SQL Server 2000 at the Data tier, COM+ at the Business tier, and ASP/XML/XSL at the Presentation tier. The application will be physically divided on two Windows 2000 servers.

Life Cycle Stage: The project is in the construction/testing phase and the selected vendor, COVANSYS (formerly known as CBSI, Inc.) is working with Drinking Water staff.

Budget: The budget for the project, as determined by the feasibility study, is $6.3 million. DOH secured $1.7 million in federal funds to cover the start-up activities, the feasibility study, initial work on the preferred option, all on-going system maintenance, and support costs incurred during the 1997-99 Biennium. Additional federal funds are expected to meet up to 70 percent of the total budget requirement. The contract for the system development was negotiated within available resources. The re-scoping of the project will deliver a system that meets the basic Drinking Water business needs with the funds available.

Schedule: DOH briefed the ISB on the project status on February 16, 2000, and explained the reasons for the delays in the project. The business area analysis was completed and the request for proposal was released. The project has made steady progress under the new project manager and the additional oversight of the agency and DIS. DOH again briefed the ISB in January 2001, reporting the progress made. The contract for design and construction has been negotiated and signed. As of April 2002, the project is on budget. There has been a minor schedule change due to user input during the User Acceptance Testing (UAT). This change is not expected to change the overall project completion date. The user interface prototype has been designed and tested. The executive sponsors and the Steering Committee have pursued an aggressive communications plan.

Status: The project continues with agency executive and DIS oversight. DOH has committed to return to the ISB for a complete project review in the event of any significant schedule delays. Users have been more deeply involved in the project through an improved communications plan. The vendor and Drinking Water staff continue to keep the project on schedule.

Recommendation: DIS will remain a part of both the Executive Level Decision Team (Core Group) and the project steering committee to provide continued oversight and recommendations for compliance with ISB requirements.